

Regular Meeting, Wednesday, June 12, 2024, 7:00 p.m., Government Center, Verona, VA.

PRESENT: Jeffrey Slaven, Chairman
Pam Carter, Vice-Chair
Michael Shull
Butch Wells
Gerald Garber
Carolyn Bragg
Scott Seaton (Via Zoom)
Timothy K. Fitzgerald, County Administrator
Jennifer M. Whetzel, Deputy County Administrator
James Benkahla, County Attorney
Angie Michael, Executive Assistant

VIRGINIA: At an adjourned meeting of the Augusta County Board of Supervisors held on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., at the Government Center, Verona, Virginia, and in the 248th year of the Commonwealth....

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Chairman Slaven welcomed those present at the meeting.

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James Benkahla, County Attorney, led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Pam Carter, Pastures District, delivered the invocation.

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Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Wells, that the Board allow Dr. Seaton to join the meeting via Zoom.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, and Bragg
Nays: None
Absent: Seaton

Motion carried.

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AUGUSTA WATER BOARD COMPENSATION ADJUSTMENT

The Board considered a request to increase the compensation for the Augusta Water Board.

Timothy Fitzgerald, County Administrator, stated that this is a request from the Augusta Water Board for the Board of Supervisors to consider the rate in which they are paid for their board meetings and their committee meetings. The Board members are currently paid \$100.00 for each regular meeting they attend and \$50.00 for each committee meeting they attend. They are asking for the Board's consideration to increase the rate to \$200.00 per regular meeting and committee meeting. There is also a request to increase the Board's Chair position and the Vice-Chair position to \$250.00 per meeting, including the full board meetings and the committee meetings. It is requested that the

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AUGUSTA WATER BOARD COMPENSATION ADJUSTMENT (CONT'D)

payment be increased by \$10.00 per year for the next ten years to 2034. In 2035 the Board will reconsider the payment amount. The bylaws for Augusta Water states that the payment decision is made by the Board of Supervisors. The payments are made from the Augusta Water budget, not the County's budget. Also for consideration is the compensation for other Boards and Commissions within the County.

Mr. Wells asked when the last increase was awarded to the Board of Zoning Appeals, Planning Commission, Augusta Water and the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Fitzgerald was uncertain of the exact timeframe, but it has been a very long since any compensation changes had been made.

Ms. Bragg stated that she would like to have further conversation and evaluation of the request.

Mr. Shull does not think this is time to consider this request.

Dr. Seaton is hesitant to increase the rate if there is not a problem filling the seats.

Ms. Carter stated that her representative is in favor of the increase. If the Augusta Water Board's compensation is increased then the rest of the Boards and Commissions need to be evaluated as well.

Mr. Garber moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board authorize staff to give recommendations on Boards and Commissions compensation and bring it back to the Board.

Dr. Seaton stated that he is not a Board member because he makes money. He is not interested in the Board getting a raise in compensation.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, and Bragg
Nays: Seaton

Motion carried.

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INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING REQUEST

The Board considered the purchase of a circulation desk and garbage can for the Stuarts Draft Library from the South River Infrastructure.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that the circulation desk was a request in the 2025 budget and was not able to be funded through the budget. The request for the garbage can is to try to eliminate garbage being thrown in areas not meant for garbage.

Funding Source: South River Infrastructure 8016-109 \$6,688.22

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Ms. Carter that the Board approve the funding request as presented.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried.

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- 1) August 15, 2024 is the VACo County Officials Summit.
- 2) The first regular Board of Supervisors meeting in July is typically cancelled each year to allow time for Board members vacations.

MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY STAFF (CONT'D)

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None

3) State code 56-464.16:1 requires the County's ECC center to have all dispatchers complete the Emergency Medical Dispatch education program that complies with the minimum standards established by the Office of Emergency Medical Services. There are four approved dispatch EMD training programs; Association of Public Safety Officials, International EMD Program, International Academy of Emergency Dispatch Priority Dispatch Systems, NECI 911 and Powerphone EMD. Our dispatchers currently use cumbersome flip cards for this process. ECC staff recommends purchasing the International Academy of Emergency Dispatch Priority Dispatch System Software in order to be compliant with the state code regulation. Cost of the software package is \$91,493.00 and includes all training. Capital funds will be utilized for the purchase. A yearly subscription cost is also required and will be placed in the operating budget.

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MATTERS TO BE PRESENTED BY THE BOARD

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Shull, that the Board appoint Steve Bridge to serve a term on the Parks & Recreation Commission. Effective July 1, 2024 and to expire June 30, 2028.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None

Ms. Bragg moved, seconded by Mr. Shull that the Board re-appoint Sonny Balsley to serve a term on the Ag Industry Board. Effective July 1, 2024 and to expire June 30, 2028.

Vote was as follows: Yeas: Slaven, Carter, Shull, Garber, Wells, Bragg and Seaton
Nays: None

Motion carried.

